



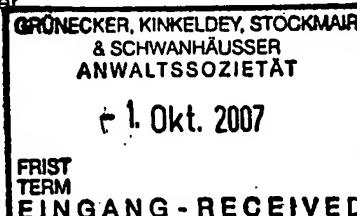
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Reference EP42101JK900peu	Application No./Patent No. 04807501.4 - 2122 PCT/JP2004019144
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COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the supplementary European search report under Article 157(2)(a) EPC for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

Refund of the search fee

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.





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SUPPLEMENTARY
EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 04 80 7501

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X 1	WO 03/044237 A (NIPPON YAKIN KOGYO CO LTD [JP]; KOBAYASHI YUTAKA [JP]; TANIUCHI TOSHIH) 30 May 2003 (2003-05-30) * abstract; figures 3,4; examples 5-12; tables 2-5 * & US 2005/016636 A1 (KOBAYASHI YUTAKA [JP] ET AL) 27 January 2005 (2005-01-27) * paragraphs [0051], [0067] - [0069]; claims 1-31 *	1-3	INV. C22C38/00 C22C38/44 C22C38/54 C21D9/46 H01G9/016 H01M2/02
A 2	US 5 830 408 A (AZUMA SIGEKI [JP] ET AL) 3 November 1998 (1998-11-03) * column 3, lines 41-63; claims 1-15; figures 1-7 *	1-3	
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A 6	EP 1 186 351 A1 (NIPPON STEEL CORP [JP]; MITSUI TAKEDA CHEMICALS INC [JP] NIPPON STEEL) 13 March 2002 (2002-03-13) * paragraphs [0016], [0019] *	1-3	
A 7	J.R. DAVIS ED.: "ASM Specialty Handbook - Stainless steels" 1996, ASM INTERNATIONAL, OHIO, USA, XP002435193 ISBN: 0-87170-503-6 * page 6 *	1-3	
1	The supplementary search report has been based on the last set of claims valid and available at the start of the search.		
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munich		19 September 2007	Catana, Cosmin
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
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ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

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